

Proposal for an Informal Working Group on “[Safer and Cleaner New and Used] [Harmonized minimum Requirements for] Vehicles [for low- and middle-income countries]”

I. Terms of Reference

1. ECE/TRANS/WP.29/1161, para.112 &113 contains WP.29 decision to establish an Informal Working Group (IWG) to take a leading role in vehicle regulatory elements in the areas of safety and environmental protection for both new and used vehicles for countries in different economic situations. This decision will require the IWG to use existing data, research as well as UN Regulations / UN GTRs or UN Rules as a guidance to form further discussions, activities, and outcomes of this group
2. The IWG shall:
 - Develop a set of minimum requirements for technical quality of new and used vehicles as pertaining to the safety and environmental condition of vehicles based on a multi pillar approach. This approach may include Periodical Technical Inspection (PTI), data and information sharing and random testing.
3. The IWG shall take full account of developments and work in full cooperation with other subsidiary Working Parties (GRs) of WP.29 and their IWGs.
4. The IWG should take into account work done, research, Resolutions and Regulations available within the framework of the 1958, 1997 and 1998 Agreements.
5. Among the deliverables foreseen (and to be foreseen) in a Framework Document and to be developed by the IWG are:
 - Identify and establish a minimum set of safety requirements based on existing UN Regulations that should qualify a used vehicle safe to exported or imported.
 - Establish a minimum set of environmental requirements based on existing UN Regulations that can be used to qualify a vehicle environmentally safe for use in a different country.
 - Establish a minimum "Safe - International Whole Vehicle Type Approval (S-IWVTA)" scheme for new and used vehicles that can be applied progressively in countries of different developmental levels
 - Develop basic test criteria to decide if used vehicles meet both environmental and safety requirement as established by this IWG and is applicable to both importing and exporting countries.
 - Establish mutual recognition of an accreditation system within this framework such that Contracting Parties accept approval granted by any Party.
6. The final deliverable may have the form of a Resolution, Agreement or Convention
7. The IWG may decide to work in phases on the different work items.
9. The requirements shall, to the fullest extent possible, be performance based and technology neutral and be prepared in a neutral form such that they can be adapted for use under the 1958, 1997 and 1998 Agreements.

II. Rules of Procedure

1. The IWG shall report to WP.29 and is open to all participants of WP.29 (see Rule 1 of WP.29 RoP).
2. The Chair(s) and a secretary will manage the IWG.
3. The Chair(s) may invite experts (at their discretion), including non-participants of WP.29, to assist in the development of technical standards.
4. The working language of the IWG will be English.
5. All documents and/or proposals must be submitted to the Secretary of the relevant group in a suitable electronic format in advance of the meeting. The group may refuse to discuss any item or proposal which has not been circulated five working days in advance to the meeting.
6. An agenda and related documents will be circulated to all members of the IWG in advance of all scheduled meetings.
7. Decisions will be reached by consensus. When consensus cannot be reached, the Chair or Co-Chair of the group shall present the different points of view to WP.29. The Chair may seek guidance from WP.29 as appropriate.
8. The progress of the IWG will be reported routinely to WP.29 – wherever possible as an informal document and presented by the Chair or Co-Chair.
9. All documents shall be distributed in digital format. Meeting documents should be made available to the Secretary for publication on the dedicated website.
10. Final decision on proposals rests with WP.29 [and the Contracting Parties].